

Message Text

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TO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS

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SUBJECT: MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE

REF: STATE 236932

1. FOLLOWING ARE TEXTS OF PARAS 30C AND 39 BIS OF QTE US
CONTRIBUTION TO THE FORMULATION OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE
EMBODYING A LONG RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT FOR NATO. UNQTE.
AS WITH TEXTS IN REFTTEL, SUGGEST YOU CIRCULATE THESE TO
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OTHER DELEGATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL STAFF FOR INSERTION IN

US TEXT AND ASK THAT THESE BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION IN PREPARATIONS FOR DISCUSSION OF KEY ELEMENTS OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE BY MINISTERS.

2. BEGIN TEXT PARA 30C.

QTE C. REGIONAL ASSESSMENTS

(1) THE OVERALL NATO DETERRENT CONSTITUTED BY THE STRATEGIC NUCLEAR, THEATER NUCLEAR, AND CONVENTIONAL FORCES OF THE ALLIANCE IS PERTINENT TO ALL REGIONS. REGIONAL CAPABILITIES SHOULD BE CALCULATED IN LIGHT OF THE OPPOSING THREAT UNDER VARIOUS SCENARIOS, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT BOTH THOSE FORCES COMMITTED TO NATO AND THOSE REMAINING UNDER NATIONAL COMMAND, INCLUDING READILY AVAILABLE FORCES, MOBILIZATION FORCES, AND REINFORCEMENT FORCES. WHILE CLEARLY THE DENSITY OF STANDING FORCES VARIES BY REGION, WITH THE NORTHERN REGION RELYING MORE ON MOBILIZATION THAN THE CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN REGIONS, NO ONE REGION IS INTENDED TO MAINTAIN FORCES IN PLACE WHICH WOULD BE ADEQUATE ALONE TO MEET ALL CONCEIVABLE SCENARIOS OF

ATTACK. PLANNING FOR MOBILIZATION AND FOR GROUND, SEA AND AIR REINFORCEMENTS SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT AS APPROPRIATE AND AS AVAILABLE FORCES AND RESOURCES PERMIT. IT SHOULD BE KEPT IN MIND THAT IF WARSAW PACT FORCES WERE TO BE CONCENTRATED AGAINST ONE PARTICULAR REGION, NATO WOULD HAVE A MORE CLEARLY IDENTIFIABLE RANGE OF REACTION AND REINFORCEMENT OPTIONS FOR DETERRENCE OR DEFENSE THAN IN EVENT OF A GENERAL DEPLOYMENT AGAINST ALL REGIONS. FLEXIBILITY IN UTILIZATION OF AIR ASSETS THROUGH PREPLANNING OF CONTINGENCY BASING BECOMES PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT IN ASSIGNMENT OF STRATEGIC RESERVE FORCES. SIMILARLY, PREPLANNING IN THE MARITIME CONTINGENCY FORCE PLANS SERIES CONTINUES TO BE ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT FOR REGIONAL SUPPORT.

(2) THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES ARE ENCOURAGED TO PROMOTE REALISTIC REGIONAL APPRAISALS OF RELATIVE CAPABILITIES AND REGIONAL EXAMINATION OF NATO CAPABILITIES
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AND DESIRABLE IMPROVEMENTS UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF MAJOR SUBORDINATE COMMANDERS AND WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES STATIONING FORCES IN THE REGION OR HAVING REINFORCEMENT FORCES WHICH MIGHT BE ASSIGNED TO THE REGION. IN THE CASES OF ALLIED COMMAND ATLANTIC AND ALLIED COMMAND CHANNEL, THESE ACTIVITIES MIGHT BE CARRIED OUT ON A COMMAND-WIDE BASIS. UNQTE. END TEXT.

3. BEGIN TEXT NEW PARA 39 BIS.

QTE. 39. BIS. PRIORITIES

A. GENERAL. IT IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL, GIVEN LIKELY CONSTRAINTS ON RESOURCES, THAT STRICT PRIORITIES BE SET IN THE ALLIANCE. IT IS NOT GOING TO BE POSSIBLE TO DO EVERYTHING AT THE SAME TIME. PRACTICAL LIMITS SHOULD BE SET. WHILE THERE WILL BE MANY PROPOSALS FOR PROJECTS OR IMPROVEMENTS AT ANY ONE TIME, IT SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED BY ALL THAT ONLY A SMALL PORTION CAN BE IDENTIFIED AS HIGHEST PRIORITY AND PURSUED AT ALL DELIBERATE SPEED TO COMPLETION. RESPONSIBILITIES FOR SETTING PRIORITIES OBTAIN AT EVERY LEVEL OF PLANNING. HOWEVER, THE MILITARY COMMITTEE SHOULD PLAY A MAJOR ROLE HERE, TAKING FULL COGNIZANCE OF RESOURCE CONSTRAINTS.

B. GENERAL CONCEPTS. THE GENERAL THRUST OF THE PRIORITIES SET FORTH IN PREVIOUS MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE AND IN THE COURSE OF THE AD-70 EXERCISE SHOULD BE RETAINED, THAT IS, THAT INITIAL COMBAT CAPABILITIES IN ANY SCENARIO ARE MORE IMPORTANT FOR DETERRENCE THAN SUPPORT OR SUSTAINING CAPABILITIES, WHICH CAN BE MOBILIZED. INITIAL COMBAT FORCES, WHICH CONSIST OF HIGHLY READY FORCES, MAY WELL INCLUDE IN-PLACE, MOBILIZABLE, AND REINFORCEMENT FORCES, GIVEN THE VARIETY OF POSSIBLE CHALLENGING SCENARIOS. THUS, THE EMPHASIS IN THE ALLIANCE SHOULD BE ON INCREASING INITIAL COMBAT CAPABILITIES, WITHIN PROJECTED RESOURCES INVOLVING MARGINAL ANNUAL INCREASES IN REAL TERMS. THIS GENERAL CONCEPT CARRIES WITH IT A NEED TO PROVIDE FOR CRITICAL MAINTENANCE CAPABILITIES AND LEVELS OF MUNITIONS SUFFICIENT TO OUTLAST INITIAL PACT STOCKS.

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C. SPECIFIC PRIORITY AREAS

(1) RESOURCE ALLOCATIONS. CHANGES IN ALLOCATIONS OF RESOURCES BETWEEN AIR, LAND, AND MARITIME FORCES, OR BETWEEN REGIONS CONTEMPLATED BY COUNTRIES IN A PROCESS OF RESTRUCTURING SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATE CONSULTATION IN NATO. IN THEIR ALLOCATIONS OF RESOURCES, COUNTRIES SHOULD GIVE DUE CONSIDERATION TO WHETHER THEY ENABLE NATO FORCES TO FUNCTION MORE EFFECTIVELY TOGETHER, AND CONTRIBUTE DIRECTLY TO DETERRENCE OF THE THREAT; THESE PURPOSES SHOULD HAVE PRIORITY OVER PURELY NATIONAL PURPOSES. THE POSSIBILITIES OF FURTHER SHIFTING OF AVAILABLE RESOURCES TO NATO COOPERATIVE OR COMMON PROGRAMS SHOULD BE SERIOUSLY EXAMINED BY EACH NATO COUNTRY.

(2) EQUIPMENT, WEAPONS, AND OTHER HARDWARE. THE QTE BASIC ISSUE UNQTE SUBJECTS, AS THEY HAVE BEEN DEFINED BY MINISTERS, TAKE THE HIGHEST PRIORITY WITH RESPECT TO THE MODERNIZATION AND PROVISION OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND WEAPON SYSTEMS, AND SPECIAL ATTENTION SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE GIVEN TO ANTI-ARMOR WEAPONS. NEW ITEMS SHOULD NOT BE ADDED TO THIS LIST EXCEPT AS CURRENT ITEMS ARE SATISFACTORILY PROGRAMMED FOR ACCOMPLISHMENT.

(3) PLANNING. NATO-WIDE PLANNING ATTENTION AND EFFORTS SHOULD BE FOCUSED ON MAKING MORE EFFECTIVE USE OF RESOURCES. ALONG WITH FORCE PROPOSALS, THERE IS A RISING NEED FOR MORE DETAILED PLANNING FOR MAKING BETTER USE OF AVAILABLE FORCES (OPERATIONAL PLANNING) AND FOR TRADE-OFFS AMONG COUNTRIES FOR BETTER USE OF AVAILABLE ASSETS

(RATIONALIZATION). FOR AN EFFECTIVE DEFENSE WITHIN RESOURCE LEVELS, FORCE PROPOSALS, OPERATIONAL PLANNING AND RATIONALIZATION REQUIRE EQUAL EMPHASIS.

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